REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12 and 22 are amended. Claims 1-23 are pending.

1. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, at pages 3-4, claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12 and 22 are amended in light of the Examiner's comments, and accordingly, withdrawal of the § 112, 2nd paragraph rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-23 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Kari P. Footland

Registration No. 55,187

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor

6/29/02

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501